Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 CCO-00 OCL-00 FBO-02 A-01 OPR-02 SCA-01 /056 W

-----240924Z 018572 /21

P R 231248Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4114
INFO USCINCEUR
NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI GR
CINUSNAVEUR
COMNAVTELCOM
UCS
SECDEF

CONFIDENTIAL ADDIS ABABA 3228

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: AFSP, AEMR SUBJ: RESIDUAL USG PROPERTY AT KAGNEW STATION

REF: A. ADDIS ABABA 3176, B. STATE 103925, C. STATE 102193, D. ADDIS ABABA 2764

1. EMBASSY HAS BEEN IN TROUCH WITH ATO AMANUEL GHEBREGYABHER, FORMERLY SENIOR ADMINSTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR CISCO AND CURRENTLY COORDINATOR FOR KAGNEW ETHIOPIAN EMPLOYEES AND THE ETHIOPIAN GOVT. AMANUEL WAS PLACED ON THE EPMG PAYROLL AS OF MAY 1. HE HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING KAGNEW ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS SINCE THE CLOSEDOWN OF KAGNEW STATION.

2. ATO AMANUEL ADVISES THAT ALL HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE FROM THE 16 HOUSES LEASED FOR KAGNEW PERSONNEL (CISCO AND PA&E), HAS BEEN TRANSPORTED TO A WAREHOUSE ON CONFIDENTIAL

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TRACT E. ALL POV'S (22 BELONGING TO NAVY, CISCO AND PA&E PERSONNEL), AND ALL USG VEHICLES (20, OF WHICH THREE ARE SEDANS AND THE BALANCE TRUCKS, PICKUPS, ETC.) ARE ALSO LOCATED AT TRACT E. OTHER THAN THIS CONSOLIDATION OF FURNITURE AND VEHICLES, NOTHING HAS BEEN DONE BY THE EPMG WITH RESPECT TO THEIR DISPOSITION. ATO AMANUEL BELIEVES THAT WE CAN DISPOSE OF

HOUSEHOLD AND OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT, POV'S AND A MAJORITY OF THE USG-OWNED VEHICLES LOCALLY. INVENTORIES OF ALL THESE ITEMS WERE PREPARED BY ATO AMANUEL AND TURNED OVER TO ATO MENGESHA, CHAIRMAN OF THE ASMARA "COMMITTEE". UNFORTUNATELY, AMANUEL DID NOT RETAIN ANY COPIES HIMSELF BUT WE ARE REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO OBTAIN COPIES FROM ATO MENGESHA.

3. AS NOTED REF A, WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING EXCELLENT COOPERATION FROM ATO MENGESHA AND HIS COMMITTEE IN ASMARA. ATO AMANUEL BELIEVES THAT ATO MENGESHA EXPECTS A JOINT COMMITTEE TO BE SET UP TO ORGANIZE THE DISPISTION OF THIS PROPERTY. IN LIGHT OF THE COOPERATION WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING AND A LOCAL MARKET FOR MUCH, IF NOT ALL, OF THIS PROPERTY, WE RECOMMEND THAT WE PROPOSE TO MOFA THAT AUTHORIZATION BE GRANTED BY EPMG FOR EMBASSY PERSONNEL, INCLUDING AMERICAN OFFICERS, TO GO TO ASMARA TO SURVEY THESE ITEMS AND ARRANGE FOR THEIR DISPOSITION IN COOPERA-TION WITH ATO MENGESHA. WE ALSO BELIEVE THAT, UNLESS USG OR VEHICLE OWNERS WANT US TO TRY AND ARRANGE FOR FURNITURE AND/OR VEHICLES TO BE SHIPPED TO SOME DESTINATION OUTSIDE OF ETHIOPIA WHICH PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE EASY, WE SHOULD PROPOSE TO MOFA THAT THIS EQUIPMENT FIRST BE OFFERED TO THE EPMG. IF THEY DECIDE THEY DO NOT WANT IT WE WOULD THEN PROPOSE TO HOLD AN AUCTION. THIS IS THE PROCEDURE THAT HAS BEEN FOLLOWED IN THE PAST AND APPARENTLY THE CONFIDENTIAL

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ONE ANTICIPATED BY ATO MENGESHA IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT OUR 1953 AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REPUDIATED BY THE EPMG. WE WOULD PREFER NOT REPEAT NOT TO INVOLVE US MILITARY OR OTHER USG PERSONNEL FROM OUTSIDE ETHIOPIA AS THIS COULD RAISE UNNECESSARY DIFFICULTIES, I.E., CLEARANCES TO GO TO ASMARA, ETC. IN THE CASE OF POV'S, WE WOULD HAVE TO HAVE APPROPRIATE POWERS OF ATTORNEY FROM OWNERS IN ORDER TO DISPOSE OF THEM. DEPT'S VIEWS ON THESE MATTERS WOULD BE APPRECIATED ASAP.

4. LANGUAGE OF PARA 2 REFTEL B WAS INCORPORATED INTO DIP NOTE AND DELIVERED TO MOFA MAY 17. TIENKEN

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NNN

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